

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 05849 241003Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W

-----030567 241236Z /40

R 240638Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

SECSTATE WASHDC 9391

USLO RIYADH

UNCLAS JIDDA 5849

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, BTIO, SA

SUBJ: POTENTIAL FOR SALE IN SAUDI ARABIA OF TEACHING MATERIALS
DESIGNED FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

REF: JIDDA 5192

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED AS RESULT OF EMBOFF
CALLS ON MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS ASSOCIATED WITH
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED
PERSONS. WHILE INFORMATION IS REPORTED FOR GENERAL DISSEM-
INATION, USDOC SHOULD MAKE CERTAIN THAT ADDRESSEE OF JIDDA
5192, MR. C. MITCHELL CARNELL, JR., ALSO RECEIVES THIS
INFORMATION.

2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION, MR. MOHAMMED
MESHAAN, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, TOLD EMBOFF THAT MINISTRY
MAINTAINS TWO INSTITUTE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN EACH
OF THE FOLLOWING: JIDDA, RIYADH AND IN "THE EASTERN
PROVINCE" (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED). CURRENT TOTAL
ENROLLMENT BETWEEN 400-500 STUDENTS. MINISTRY PLANS TO
BUILD TWO NEW SCHOOLS AT MEDINA DURING 1978. PROGRAMS
WILL INCLUDE BRAILLE READING AND WRITING AND LIP-READING.
MOST SAUDI TEACHERS ARE TRAINED IN EGYPT, HOWEVER, ONE
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 05849 241003Z

TEACHER IS A PHD CANDIDATE AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY.

3. MR. SALEH MUHANNA, DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY'S PROGRAM
FOR THE BLIND, STATED THAT KINGDOM HAS NINE SCHOOLS FOR
THE BLIND, SEVEN FOR THE DEAF AND FOUR FOR MENTALLY
RETARDED. MINISTRY PLANS CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE ADDITIONAL
SCHOOLS DURING 1978: ONE FOR BLIND, TWO FOR DEAF AND TWO

FOR MENTALLY RETARDED.

4. PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT ARE U.S. U.K. ITALY AND DENMARK. U.S. FIRMS INTERESTED IN SALES SHOULD CONTACT DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, HRH PRINCE KHALID BIN FAHD BIN KHALED, RIYDH. CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD INCLUDE DESCRIPTIVE BROCHURES, ITEMS OF INTEREST TO MINISTRY INCLUDE HEARING AIDS, CALCULATORS WHICH CAN BE OPERATED BY BLIND AND OTHER UNSPECIFIED EQUIPMENT FOR BLIND.

5. MINISTRY HAS EXPERIENCED PROBLEMS IN DEALING WITH FOREIGN SUPPLIERS, PARTICULARLY U.S. AND U.K. MANUFACTURERS OF EQUIPMENTS FOR THE BLIND. THEY ARE OFTEN NON-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS AND RESIST DEALING WITH COMMERCIAL FIRMS IN SUPPLYING MINISTRY. SAG PREFERS DEAL THROUGH LOCAL AGENTS ON TENDERS SINCE THEY CAN BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR SHORTCOMINGS IN MERCHANDISES. MINISTRY HAS NOT "TESTED" NEW SAG PURCHASING TECHNIQUE WHICH INCREASED MAXIMUM AMOUNTS BY WHICH GOVERNMENTS AGENCIES CAN PURCHASE ON SOLE-SOURCE, E. G. WITHOUT PUBLIC TENDER.

6. WHETHER SOLE-SOURCE OR THROUGH TENDERS, U.S. FIRMS ARE WELL ADVISED TO HAVE LOCAL REPRESENTATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770830/aaaaaypr.tel
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